

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

This declaration is of the following type:

- ☐ original ☐ design ☐ supplemental  
☒ national stage of PCT  
☐ divisional ☐ continuation ☐ continuation-in-part

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (*if only one name is listed below*) or an original, first, and joint inventor (*if plural names are listed below*) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

NEGATIVELY CHARGED MEMBRANE

the specification of which:

- ☐ is attached hereto.  
☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (*if applicable*).  
☐ was filed by Express Mail No. \_\_\_\_\_ as Application No. *not known yet*, and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (*if applicable*).  
☒ was filed on February 25, 2000 as PCT International Application No. PCT/US00/04745 and was amended on August 24, 2001 (*if any*).

I state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification identified above, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of the application identified above in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

I claim foreign priority benefits under 35 USC 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or 365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent, utility model, design registration, or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter and having a filing date before that of the application(s) from which the benefit of priority is claimed.

| PRIOR FOREIGN PATENT, UTILITY MODEL,<br>AND DESIGN REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS |                                  |                                    |                  |     |  |    |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|-----|--|----|
| COUNTRY  | PRIOR FOREIGN<br>APPLICATION NO. | DATE OF FILING<br>(day,month,year) | PRIORITY CLAIMED |     |  |    |
|  |                                  |                                    |                  | YES |  | NO |
|  |                                  |                                    |                  | YES |  | NO |
|  |                                  |                                    |                  | YES |  | NO |

I claim the benefit pursuant to 35 USC 119(e) of the following United States provisional patent application(s):

| PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATIONS,<br>BENEFIT CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119(e) |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| APPLICATION NO.  | DATE OF FILING<br>(day,month,year) |
| 60/121,668   | 25 February 1999                   |
|  |                                    |
|  |                                    |

I claim the benefit pursuant to 35 USC 120 of any United States patent application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this patent application is not disclosed in the prior patent application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 USC 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 effective between the filing date of the prior patent application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this patent application.

| PRIOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S., BENEFIT CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 120 |                                     |  |                    |           |           |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------|-----------|-----------|
| U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS  |                                     |  | Status (check one) |           |           |
| U.S. APPLICATION NO.  | U.S. FILING DATE                    | PATENTED                                   | PENDING            | ABANDONED |           |
| 1.  |                                     |  |                    |           |           |
| 2.  |                                     |  |                    |           |           |
| 3.  |                                     |  |                    |           |           |
| PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.   |                                     |  | Status (check one) |           |           |
| PCT APPLICATION NO.   | PCT FILING DATE<br>(day,month,year) | U.S. APPLICATION NOS. ASSIGNED<br>(if any) | PATENTED           | PENDING   | ABANDONED |
| 4.  |                                     |  |                    |           |           |
| 5.  |                                     |  |                    |           |           |
| 6.  |                                     |  |                    |           |           |

| DETAILS OF FOREIGN APPLICATIONS FROM WHICH PRIORITY CLAIMED<br>UNDER 35 USC 119 FOR ABOVE LISTED U.S./PCT APPLICATIONS |         |                 |                                    |                                   |
|--|---------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ABOVE<br>APPLICATION. NO.  | COUNTRY | APPLICATION NO. | DATE OF FILING<br>(day,month,year) | DATE OF ISSUE<br>(day,month,year) |
| 1.   |         |                 |                                    |                                   |
| 2.   |         |                 |                                    |                                   |
| 3.   |         |                 |                                    |                                   |
| 4.   |         |                 |                                    |                                   |
| 5.   |         |                 |                                    |                                   |
| 6.   |         |                 |                                    |                                   |

As a named inventor, I appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Customer Number 23548.



**23548**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

I further direct that correspondence concerning this application be directed to Customer Number 23548.



**23548**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor: Chung-Jen HOU

Inventor's signature

*Chung-Jen Hou*

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Full name of second joint inventor: Peter KONSTANTIN

Inventor's signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Post Office Address: Same As Above

As a named inventor, I appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Customer Number 23548.



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Full name of sole or first inventor: Chung-Jen HOU

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